PRELIMINARY REPORT

2015: E15 – Cunningham Road (Jones Road)

APPLICANT: Harris County Engineering Department

KEY MAP: 409

JURISDICTION: Harris County

DISTRICT/PRECINCT:
Harris County Pct.: 4

PROPOSAL:

Harris County is requesting the realignment of Major Thoroughfare Cunningham Road, between West Little York Road and FM 529, from the Major Thoroughfare and Freeway Plan (MTFP).

APPLICANT'S JUSTIFICATION and HISTORY:

Harris County requests the realignment of Cunningham Road to extend south from existing Jones Road at FM 529 to line up with Cunningham Road south of West Little York Road. The original Cunningham Road alignment was created prior to the construction of existing Jones Road north of FM 529 by Harris County and the City of Jersey Village. This is inconsistent with the mapped alignment. A continuous Major Thoroughfare alignment provides the desired traffic operations and maintains the purpose of the MTFP.

The applicant states that in 2008, a platting applicant had submitted a plat called Oceaneering International, Inc. with 60-foot right-of-way (ROW) dedication for the existing Major Thoroughfare alignment location at FM 529. This was approved by Planning Commission in 2008 but never recorded at that time. A subsequent plat, also titled Oceaneering International, Inc. was resubmitted in 2013 requesting the same 60-foot ROW dedication. This was recorded in 2014 with the ROW dedication.

The applicant contends that if this amendment is not acted upon, there will be a misalignment of the Cunningham Road/Jones Road corridor, which is not the purpose of the MTFP. The applicant also states that ROW should be dedicated in locations where a road is practically going to be constructed. Other properties may plat and dedicate ROW along the current alignment which would serve no purpose since the intent is to align the corridors.

Cunningham Road first appeared on the MTFP in 1957 between Tanner Road and Louetta Road as a straight alignment. In 1966, there appeared to be a westward shift in the alignment to line up with Jones Road to the north. In 1976, a gap was created in the Cunningham Road/Jones Road alignment, excluding the alignment in the Jersey Village ETJ. In 2011, Jones Road was extended as a boulevard section from US 290 to FM 529 by a joint effort between Harris County and the City of Jersey Village. This was done to improve mobility in the area and to relieve congestion.